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Application Serial No. 09/919,794  
Response to Office Action dated June 17, 2008EXPEDITED HANDLING PROCEDURE  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Currently, the Examiner repeats his previous rejections of claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,390,005 to Kimoto et al.; claims 1, 8 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,708,787 to Nakano et al.; and claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakano in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,818,428 to Eisenbrandt et al. The Examiner further rejects claims 1, 8 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by newly cited U.S. Patent No. 5,086,385 to Launey et al.

In general, the present invention is directed to an information display system for an appliance incorporating an electronic interface screen. As set forth in accordance with the preferred embodiment outlined in the specification, a plurality of zones 15-20 are depicted in Figure 2B. Error codes are depicted in display zone 18 and, although not shown, additional selectable data would be displayed in one or more of zones 15-17 and 20. See paragraph 0021. The present invention provides for enlarging zone 18 to encompass the entire display 10 as represented in screen 300. At the same time, an additional layer of information is added to the first set of information that was in zone 18 of the display, with the additional information giving further details as to the first layer of information. None of the applied prior art has corresponding structure or performs a corresponding method.

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner points to a main menu item (i.e. Lens Mode 21) and notes that, when it is selected, a submenu will encompass the entire display as depicted in Figure 3. However, Kimoto et al. does not cause one of the plurality of selectable zones to become enlarged while presenting a second set of information **with the first set of information**. The Applicant notes that the present invention is not merely claiming a submenu as set forth in Kimoto et al. Instead, the present invention allows a first set of information to become enlarged, while also being joined by a second set of information **representing additional details concerning the**

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**first set of information**, such that both sets of information substantially, entirely encompass the screen. In this way, if the user has experience interpreting the first set of information, e.g., diagnostic codes, then no further information on the data is required. However, if the user is not experienced in the interpretation of the first set of information, an additional selection can be made causing zone 18 to enlarge so as to substantially, entirely encompass the screen as represented by screen 300 in Figure 2B.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that the first set of information is nothing more than selectable item menus or available options that help a user to interact with the appliance. However, the Applicant notes that the selection buttons on the key pad of the Kimoto et al. copy machine do not show 'a first set of information' displayed in 'one of a plurality of zones' as claimed. Instead, Kimoto et al. simply shows a screen providing operating options to a user and, upon selecting one of the available options, a subsequent selection screen is provided to present other distinct operating options to the user without displaying both the first set of information and a second set of information representing additional details concerning the first set of information. In addition, the Examiner continues to equate the help option button in Kimoto et al. with the 'diagnostic code' of claims 3, 4, and 11. In support of this argument, the Examiner notes that the 'DIAGNOSTICS' option shown in the present application is a submenu of the 'Help' option in a main menu display. However, the fact that the 'DIAGNOSTICS' option is a submenu of the 'Help' option shows that the two are not the same thing. Instead, the 'DIAGNOSTICS' option is one of a plurality of submenus listed under 'Service Menu' under the 'Help' option. Again, the Applicant notes that in the appliance art, the term 'diagnostic code' has a clear meaning and is not the same as a help button.

In addition to the above deficiencies, Kimoto et al. fails to teach diagnostic codes presented as the first set of information as required by claims 4 and 11, or that a screen is divided into a plurality of selectable zones and the plurality of selectable zones are divided into substantially equally sized areas as set forth in claims 5, 12 and 18.

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With respect to the rejections of claims 1, 8 and 15 in view of Nakano et al., the Applicant respectfully asserts that Nakano et al. does not teach displaying a first set of information in one of a plurality of selectable zones and causing the first set of information to become enlarged and **joined by a second set of information** representing additional details concerning the first set of information, such that both sets of information substantially, entirely encompass the screen. Again, the present invention is not directed to a submenu as set forth in Nakano et al.

On page 11 of the Office Action, the Examiner has reiterated his previous rejection of claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakano et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,818,428 to Eisenbrandt et al. Claim 20 is patentably distinct for at least the same reasons as set forth above with respect to claim 15. More specifically, neither Nakano et al. nor Eisenbrandt et al., either alone or in combination, teach a laundry appliance including a means for enlarging one of a plurality of selectable display zones including a first set of information while presenting a second set of information with the first set of information, where the second set of information represents additional details concerning the first set of information.

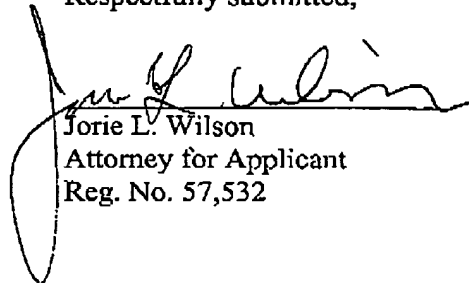
The new rejection of claims 1, 8 and 15 on page 9 of the Office Action will now be addressed. The Examiner asserts that submenus showed in Figure 3B of Launey et al. are equivalent to "a second set of information" wherein the second set of information represents additional details concerning the first set of information. The Applicant respectfully disagrees. A submenu is not the same as a second set of information **which represents additional details** of the first set of information. Instead, a submenu is simply leads to another menu option. When read properly in light of the specification, the "second set of information" in claims 1, 8 and 15 cannot be read on a submenu item which does not provide any additional information.

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Based on the above remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is patentably defined over the prior art of record such that allowance of all claims and passage of the application to issue are respectfully requested. If the Examiner should have any additional questions or concerns regarding this matter or has any additional recommendations that would held to further prosecution, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided below in order to further prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



Jorie L. Wilson  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 57,532

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**DIEDERIKS & WHITE LAW, PLC**  
12471 Dillingham Square, #301  
Woodbridge, VA 22192  
Tel: (703) 583-8300  
Fax: (703) 583-8301